DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 173 038 **RC 011 530**

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TITLE	Akutanax (Akutan).
INSTITUTION	Alaska Univ., Anchorage. National Bilingual Materials Development Center.
SPONS AGENCY	Office of Bilingual Education (DHEW/OE), Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE	Oct 77
GRANT	G007605457
NOTE	70p.; Prepared in Eastern Aleut by Olga Mensoff and Moses Dirks
AVAILABLE FROM	National Bilingual Materials Development Center, Rural Educational Affairs, University of Alaska, 2223 Spenard Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503 ($1.50, limited supply)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Alaska Natives; *Bilingual Education; *Childrens Literature; Cultural Awareness; Cultural Context; *Elementary Education; Eskimo Aleut Languages; *Instructional Materials; Language Instruction; Local History
IDENTIFIERS	*Alaska (Akutan Island); *Aleut (Tribe); Eastern Aleut (Language); Oral Tradition

ABSTRACT

Villagers on the Alentian island of Akutan must share their island with a volcano, an active, smoking one that soils clothes hanging on the clothesline and in winter blackens the snow. Winters are particularly hard on the island. Strong winds blow and as ice clogs the creek the town's electric supply is cut off in February and March. Akutan is a long village, located near a bay, and it contains 20 houses, a small village store, and a 12-student school. Twice a year a priest comes to Akutan's church. In the summer a crab processing ship comes and everyone from the village works on the ship for the three months of its stay. Akutan has no airport, but at least once a week a sea plane brings mail and freight; a mail boat also sails from Kodiak. There are no telephones on Akutan; outside communication is by radio. Hunting on the island is limited to birds: ducks, geese, and ptarmigan. At one time there were many fish around Akutan, but now very few remain. This scenario of life on Akutan is printed in both Eastern Aleut and English and is intended for use in bilingual instruction. It is printed in large type, illustrated, and written in simple words. The twenty short happenings are related by a lifelong resident of the village. They include descriptions of physical features of the area as well as aspects of the life style of its inhabitants. (DS)

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AKUTANAX

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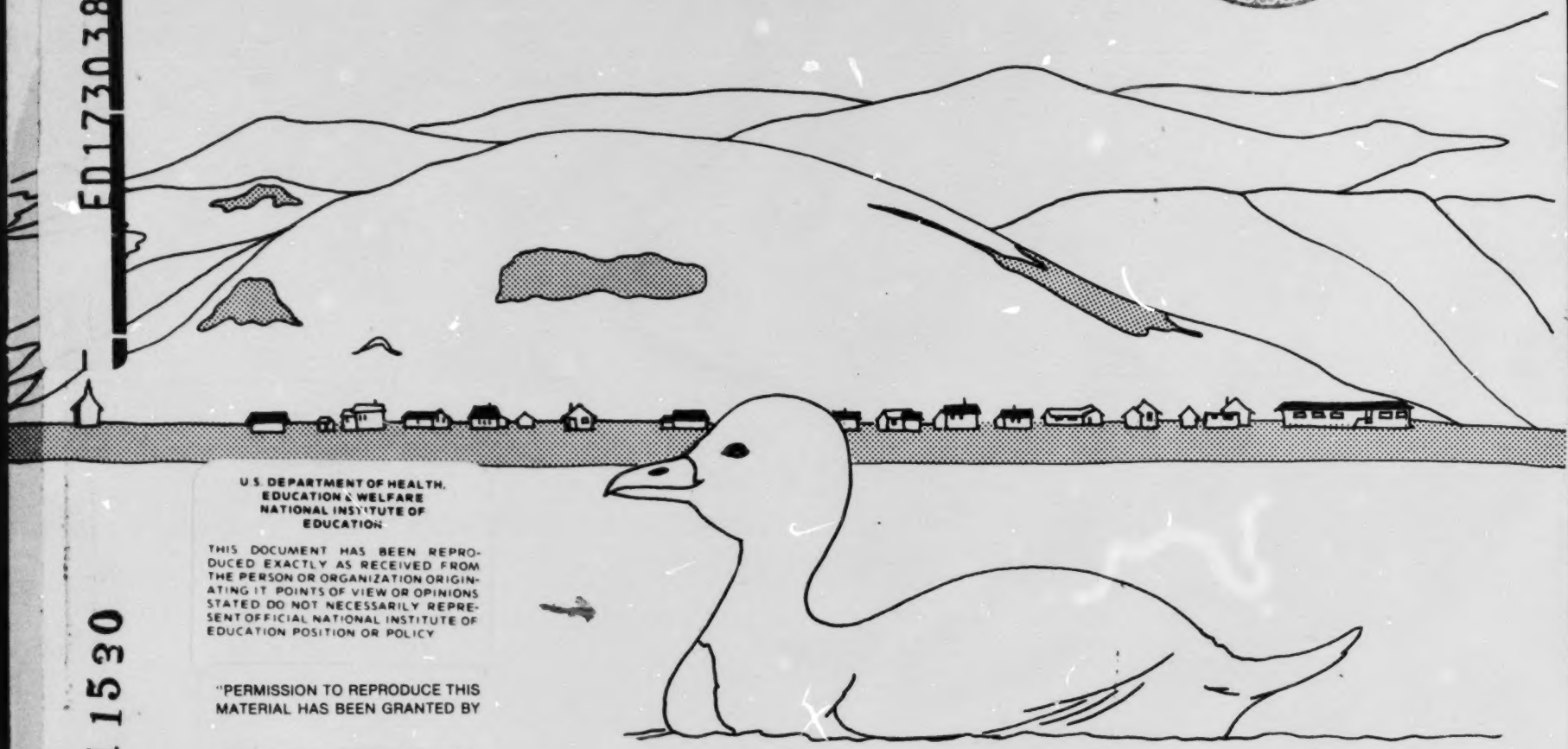

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AKUTANAX
(AKutan)

A joint project of the
National Bilingual Materials Development Center
and the Aleutian Regional School District

Developed from material given by
Olga Mensoff of Akutan, Alaska

Prepared in Eastern Aleut by
Olga Mensoff and Moses Dirks

Illustrated by John Mensoff
and J. Leslie Boffa

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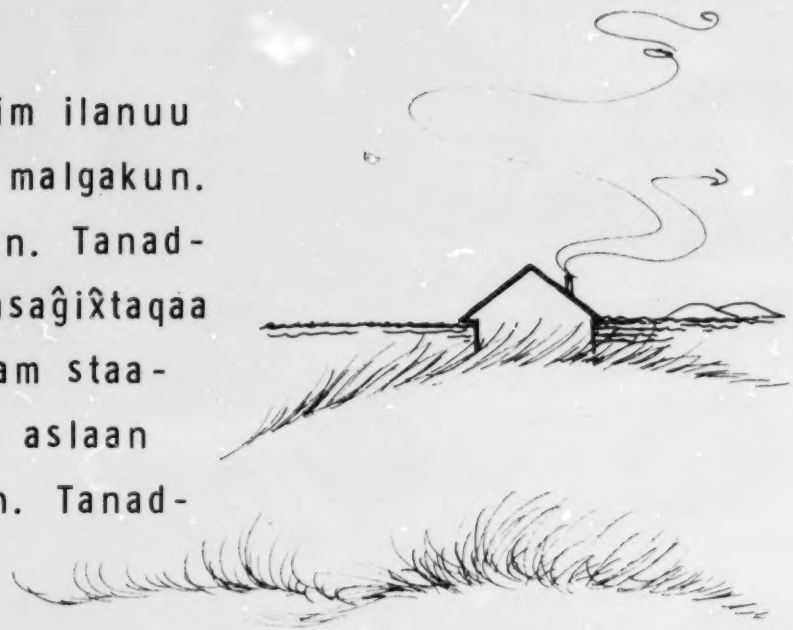
II

1

AKUTANAX̂

Akutanam tanadgusii adukuX̂. Algimatim ilanuu ulaX̂ malgakuX̂. Tanadgusim adangan qayan malgakun. Qayan slam ilaan tanadgusiX̂ chachiX̂tadakun. TanadgusiX̂ alaĝum chidaĝan akuX̂. Alanaaĝnam asaĝiX̂taqaa qakuun qalan malgadakuX̂. Qaankun taangkam staarangin amaligan akun. AlanaaX̂ malgaqagan aslaan suĝaqan. Priistinangin wayaam maasalkaĝin. Tanadgusim ilan priistinan malgakun.



AKUTAN

Akutan is a long village. There are about twenty houses. There are mountains behind the village. The mountains shelter the village. The village is near the bay. There used to be a whaling station up the bay. Three old tanks are still there. They used them when the whaling station operated. The dock of the old whaling station is gone. There is a dock at the village.

ULAN

Ulan Akutanam kugan anangin yaagam ilaan aguĝikun. Amaadaan yaagan triivaayalgadakun. Alitxum agalaan yaagam aĝiilqagan ilangin malgalikun. Wakun yaagan iliin ulam agitaasangin aguĝikun. Akutanam ulangin angunakun. Agitaasangin angunaadlakaĝin.

HOUSES

The houses in Akutan are made of lumber. The lumber is ordered from outside of Akutan. Some lumber was left on Akutan after World War II. This lumber was used to make houses. Some of the houses on Akutan are very big. Other houses are small.

AKUTANAX̂ IX̂AMNAADAKUX̂

Akutanax̂ saaqudgim ilan ix̂amnaadadakux̂. Chinguudĝim itxalax̂tagan amnaĝuu malgadakux̂. Qayuum amnaĝungin malgadakun. Tuman qaayun ladalkaĝin. Anĝaĝim asla,riimaĝilix lakuu alakan. Itaangisix tuman qaayun ladanan. Chaamam itxalax̂tagan amnaĝuu agux̂tadanan. Qaayum itxax̂tangin malgadakun, alagnan, unignan kayux qaayum qaxchiklungin.

AKUTAN IS BEAUTIFUL

Akutan is beautiful in the summer. There are many kinds of flowers. There are also many berries. We don't pick the berries. No one has time any more. We used to pick berries. We made jam and jelly. The kinds of berries are salmonberries, blueberries, and blackberries.

ANAĜIIDAM IHDANGIN

Akutanam kugan qaayum usxingin amnaĝukun. Saa-qudgim ilan qiigax̂ angunadakux̂. Itaangisix waaĝakuqingaan qiigaachkaadax̂ malgaqax̂. Akalux̂ maasanaĝulux. Qiigax̂ angunanax̂. Anĝaĝim kamgingin agachiidangin ukux̂ta-danaqing. Aygagumchin qiigam ilan txichin aĝutanax̂ lii-dadanan. Usxim ilakix agacha tanadgusim kugan akun. Waligan itxiqan.

GROWING THINGS

Akutan has lots of berry bushes. It also has lots of grass in the summer. When I first got to Akutan it was all grass. There was no road. The grass was very tall. All I could see were the people's heads. They were hidden by the tall grass when they walked. There are a few trees in the village. They were planted there.

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CHALAN

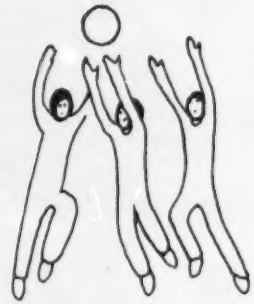
Chalam amnaĝuu Akutanam kugan malgadakuχ̂. Alaĝum achidaan lalgadakun. Chalam agitaasangin qamaquχ̂ adakun. Chalam chaχ̂saa qaatdakun. Chalam saaraĝii kayux bikaĝii iχ̂amnachχ̂idakun. Maartam kugan chalan lalgadakun. Saa-qudgim ilan chalan lalgadalkaĝin. Kiimadgiχ̂ aqaguun ta-taam lalgaaĝin maayuuladakun.

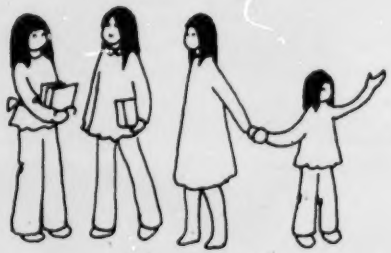
CLAMS

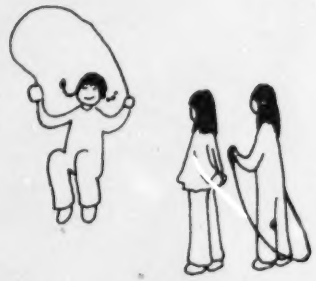
There are lots of clams at Akutan. We dig them on the beach. There are mostly razor and butter clams. We like to make clam chowder. We like fried clams and baked clams. We start digging clams in March. We don't dig clams in the summer. We dig them again in the fall.

ACHIGAALUX̂

Achigaalux̂ angunaadalakax̂. Atix aalax uchinikax̂ agachiidaa malgakux̂. Agitaasangin wan slux̂ achigax̂ inaduukun. Aniqdum angunaadanginulux malgakun. Slungin sanangin aqagumchi achigduukun. Achigaa-luĝim ruumaa angunakux̂. Tanam angunaa aniqdum am-naĝugan ngaan malgakux̂.

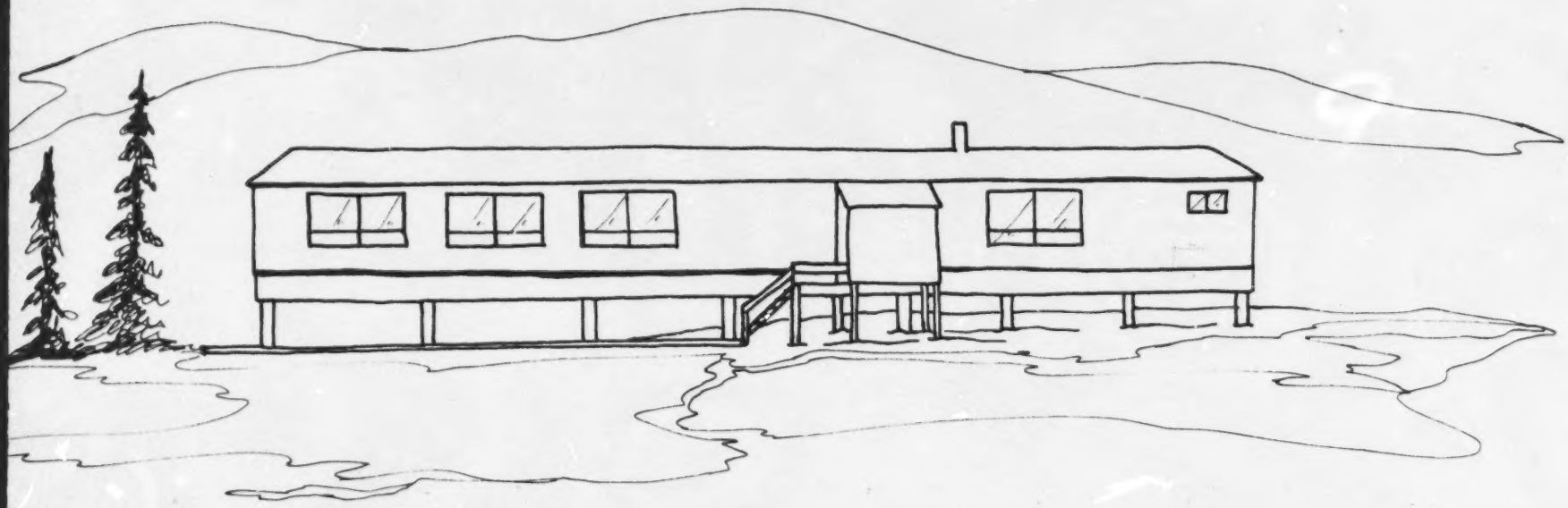






THE SCHOOL

The school is small. There are only twelve students. Some will graduate this year. There are little children in Akutan. They will go to school when they are older. The schoolroom is big. There is space for many children.



TANADGUSIM TAYAALUĜA

Tanadgusim tayaaluĝa angunaadalakaχ̂. Uliyaanam itaangisix maayuχ̂taqaa txin sakaχ̂saĝiim kadaan. Wayaam asxinugan agachan maayuχ̂takuu. Agniiyaχ̂ asaχ̂takuχ̂. Tayaaluχ̂ qaqam baankaĝingin matakuχ̂. Saaχ̂araχ̂ kayux alugaχ̂ matakuχ̂. Praviisaχ̂ amadaan sunam kugan waaĝadakuχ̂. Ulum igaĝii Angkuricham ilaan igaχ̂tadam kugan waaĝadakuχ̂.

VILLAGE STORE

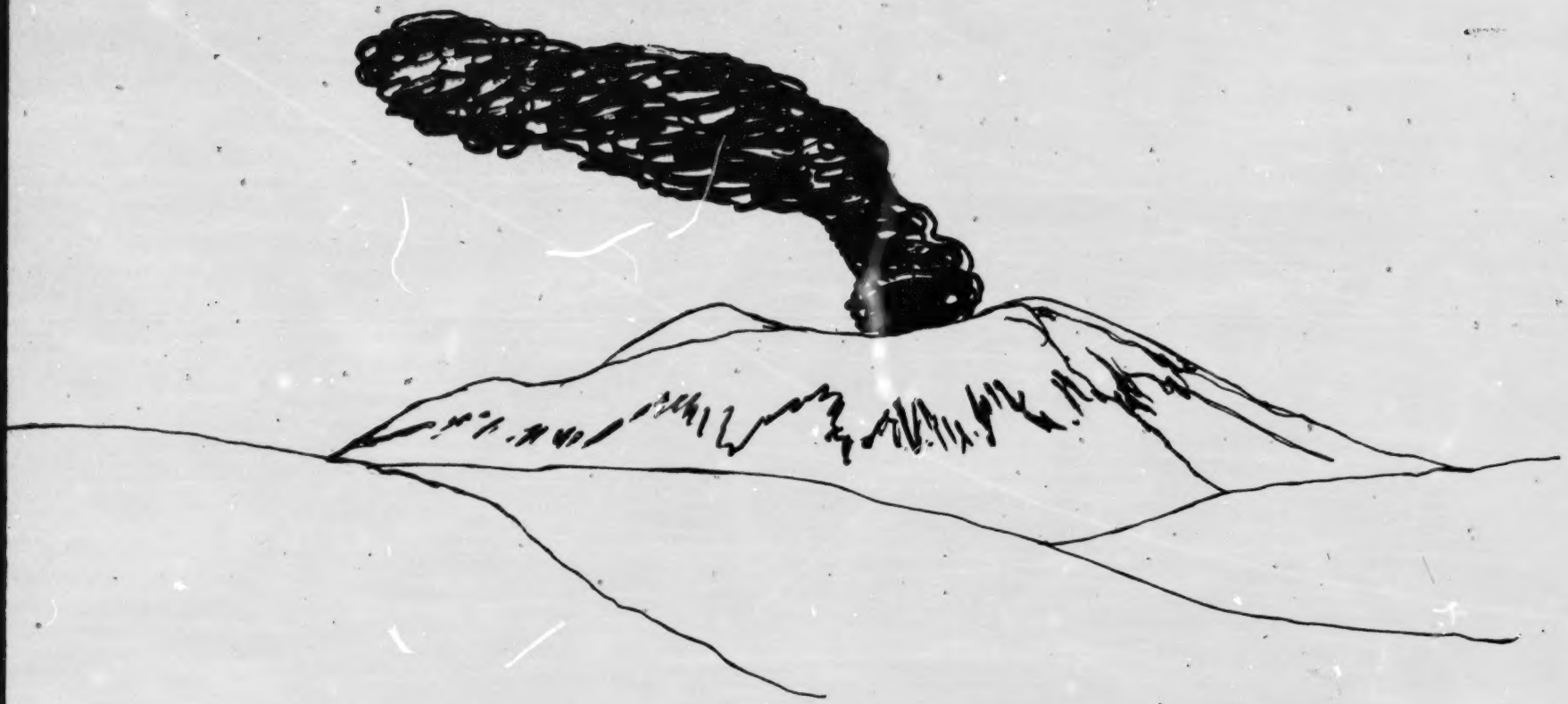
The village store is small. Hugh ran the store before he died. His daughter runs it now. Her name is Agnes. The store has canned food. It also has sugar and flour. The supplies come by boat from Seattle. The meat comes from Anchorage on the plane.

AKUTANAM ANĜII

Akutanax̂ tanam anĝiĝii. Usugaan Akutanam anĝii anĝiigusalidakux̂. Naadaan ax̂tax̂ maadux̂ malgaguun madalakax̂. Waĝii tanadgusim adan qutaxtaalalix. Chx̂uuĝim sadaadan aĝaanaa txin kikagnaasalix. Qiigam ilan aygaxkungin uliigix̂ txin kikagnaasadakux̂. Qan'gim ilan qaniix qaxchiklux̂ itadakux̂.

AKUTAN VOLCANO

There is a volcano on Akutan. The volcano smokes all the time. It is bad when the wind is from the south. The smoke blows into the village. The clothes get dirty on the clothesline. Our shoes get dirty walking on the grass. In the winter, it makes the snow black.



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WAĜIM QIMADGUNGIN

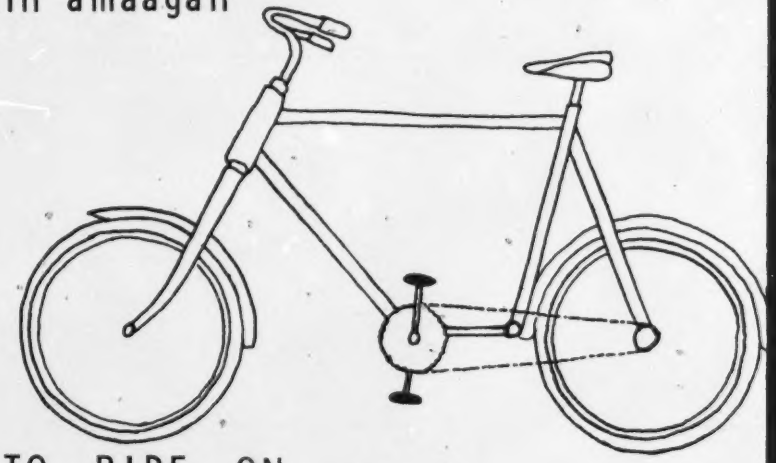
Akutanam anĝaa anĝiguum waĝim qimadgungin aguχ̂-tadakuχ̂. Puuf--puuf--puuf istalix. Waĝim qimadgungin akaligan aĝadakun. Agalaan waĝim qaxchiklugan angunaa aqadakuχ̂. Igaχ̂tadam kugan ayχ̂akuqingaan ukuχ̂taqang. Waĝigan ihnaa ukuχ̂taqang. Waĝim sutugan angunaa aguχ̂-tanaχ̂. Qignaa ukuχ̂taatuqang. Taĝa ukuχ̂taliqangulux.

SMOKE RINGS

The volcano makes smoke rings. They go, "Puff--puff--puff." The rings rise up into the air. Then big clouds of black smoke come up. I flew around the volcano to see it better. I saw the smoke come out. It was very thick smoke. I didn't see any fire. I wanted to see some fire.

ANAĜIIDAM KUGAN AYX̂ALGADNAA

Akutanax̂ kaaraniin angunaadalakax̂. Lakaayam agitaasangin ayx̂aasim kulisx̂ii matadakux̂. Agitaasangin liidam masinĝii matakungin. Qaniigim naartaa kayux matakun. Mikam ngaan agacha suĝadakun. Kitax aygaglakix agacha ahlikux Akutanam kugan. Txin amaagan nuutnaan aygaxsix nuduukakux̂txin.

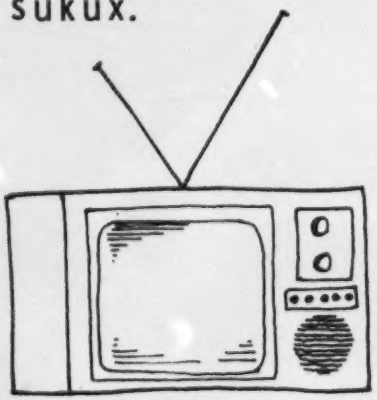


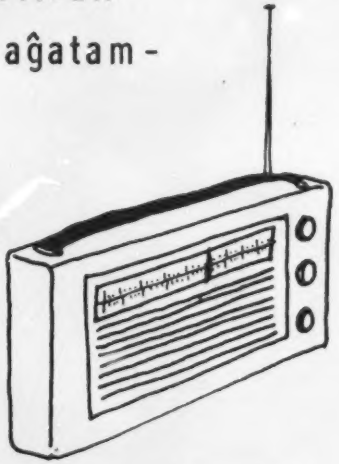
THINGS TO RIDE ON

Akutan is too small for cars. Some boys have motorcycles. There are also bicycles. We don't have any snogos. We have sleds. They are used for playing. Feet are most useful in Akutan. You can go anywhere on foot.

RIITYUX̂

Riityux̂ tutadakun. Angkurichax̂ amasix Nuumax̂ tutadakun. Riityum ilaan Awaayax̂ amasix Kalifuunyax̂ tutadakun. Akutanam kugan tilifuunax̂ maasalakax̂. Riityum ilaan awaaĝix̂ tanadgusim ngaan agacha tunux̂tadakun. Amaagan sisminax̂ anuxtagungin ix̂tadakun. Tiliviisan Akutanam kugan maasalakax̂. Liidax̂ ukulgaaĝan aĝatamsukux̂.



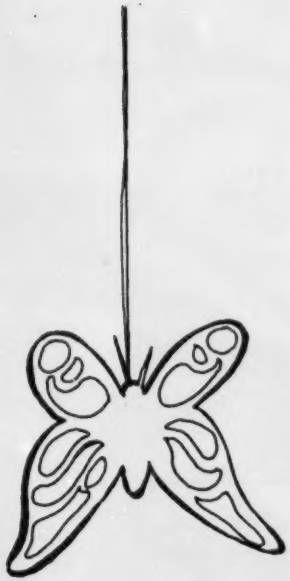


RADIO

We listen to the radio. We can get Anchorage and Nome. We also get Hawaii and California. There are no telephones in Akutan. We can talk to other villages by radio. We can call for help if we need help. There is no television in Akutan. Maybe we will get it soon.

SUUĜANAADAX̂

Tayaĝum agiitasangin suuĝanaadax̂ madakun. Alam kigusigan ilaan anaĝiidan agudakun. Qawam kigusii kayux sux̂tadakun. Lukaa aalax aanisnaadam ix̂amnadakix qawam kigusigan ilaan agux̂tanax̂. Ulam putuluukagan ilan inglidax. Tayaĝun quchxaan yaagax̂ suĝanaadax̂tadakun. Yaagam ilaan iqyaadax̂ kayux agudakun. Anaĝiidam ix̂amnaadagan agulgaa chasam angunaa sux̂tadax̂.

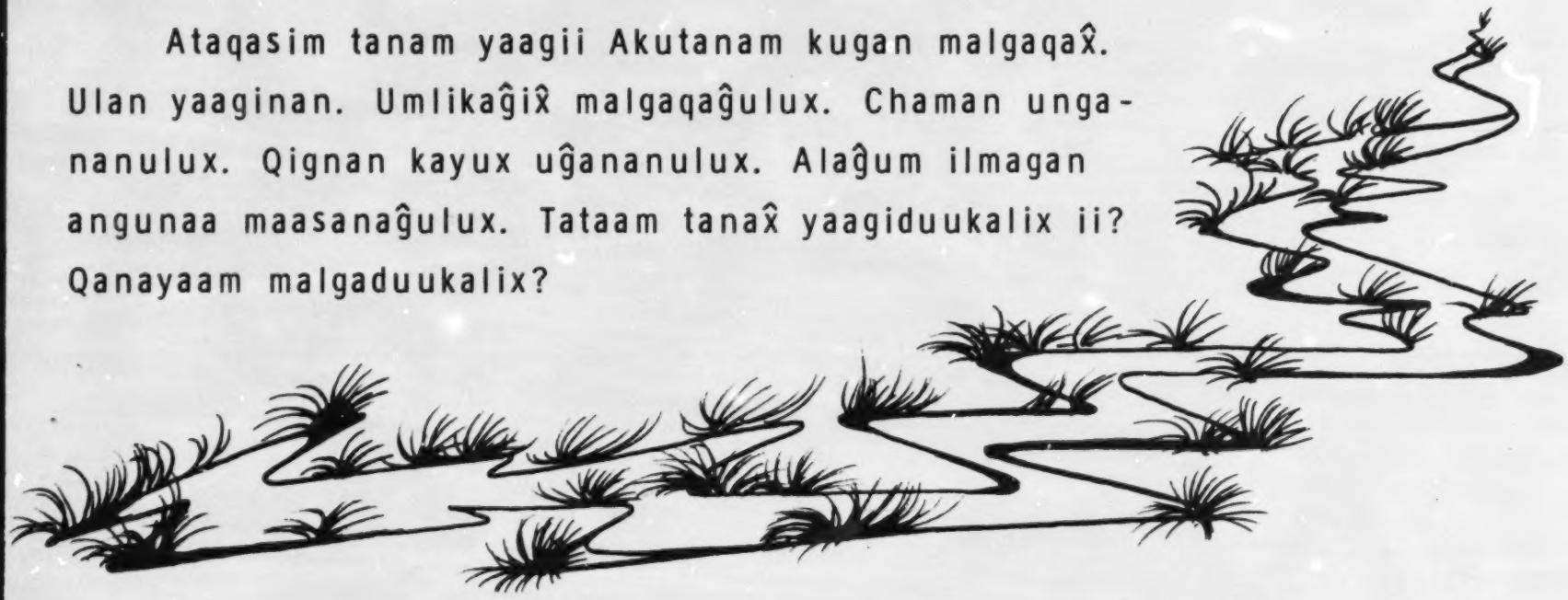


CARVING

Some of the men carve. They make figures out of whalebone and ivory. The ivory is from sea lion tusks. Luke made two beautiful ivory butterflies. They hang from the ceiling. Sometimes the men carve wood. They make little wooden boats. It takes a lot of time to carve beautiful things.

TANAM YAAGII

Ataqasim tanam yaagii Akutanam kugan malgaqax̂. Ulan yaaginan. Umlikaĝix̂ malgaqaĝulux. Chaman ungananulux. Qignan kayux uĝananulux. Alaĝum ilmagan angunaa maasanaĝulux. Tataam tanax̂ yaagiduukalix ii? Qanayaam malgaduukalix?

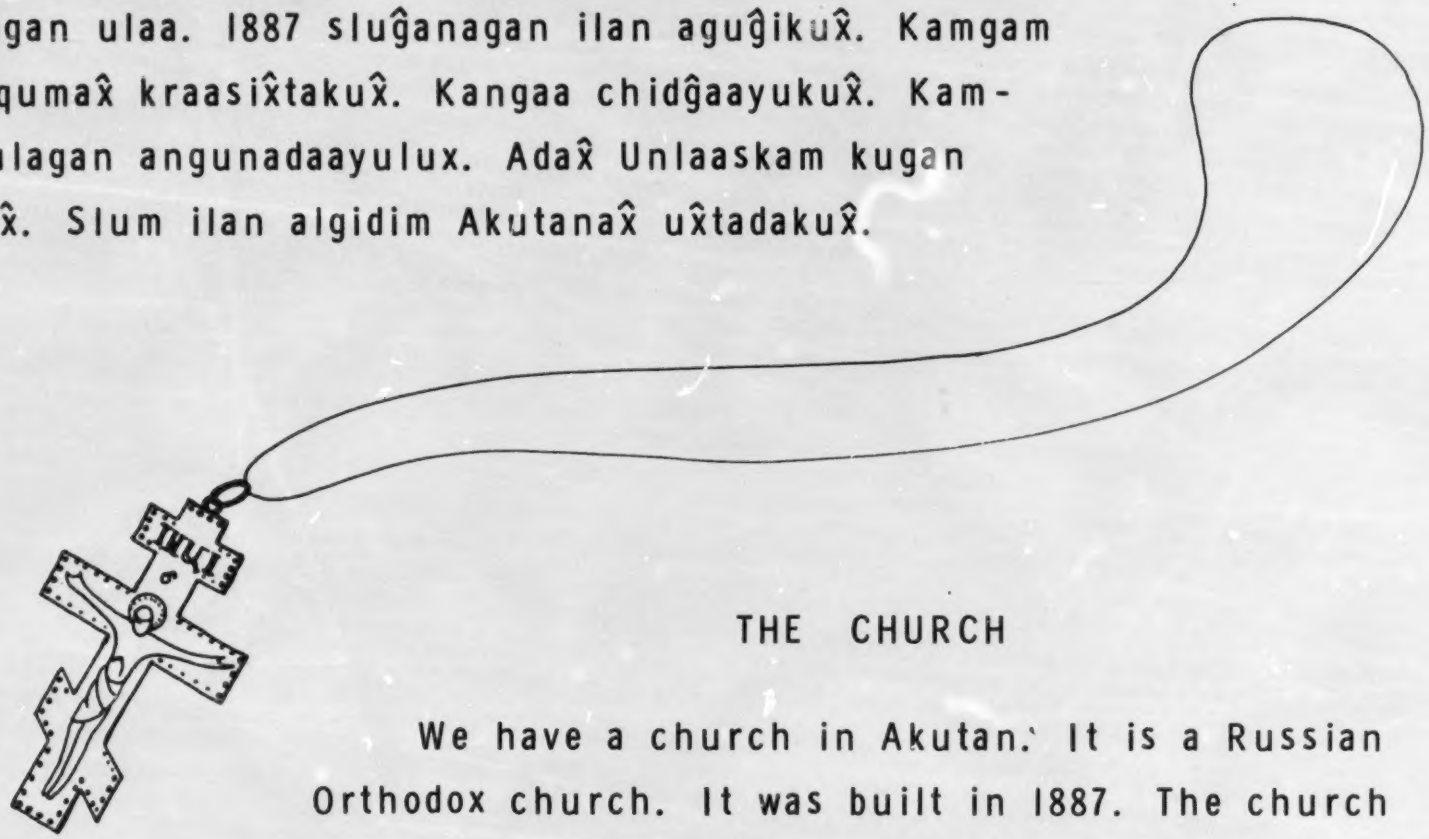


EARTHQUAKE

There was an earthquake in Akutan. The houses shook. There was no damage. The dishes didn't break. The lights didn't go out. There were no big waves in the ocean. Will we have another earthquake? When will it come?

KAMGAM ULAA

Akutanam kugan kamgam ulaa malgakuχ̂. Kasakam kamgagan ulaa. 1887 sluĝanagan ilan aguĝikuχ̂. Kamgam ulaa qumaχ̂ kraasiχ̂takuχ̂. Kangaa chidĝaayukuχ̂. Kamgam ulagan angunadaayulux. Adaχ̂ Unlaaskam kugan adakuχ̂. Slum ilan algidim Akutanaχ̂ uχ̂tadakuχ̂.



THE CHURCH

We have a church in Akutan. It is a Russian Orthodox church. It was built in 1887. The church is painted white. It has a green roof. It is a small chapel. The priest stays at Unalaska. He comes twice a year to Akutan.

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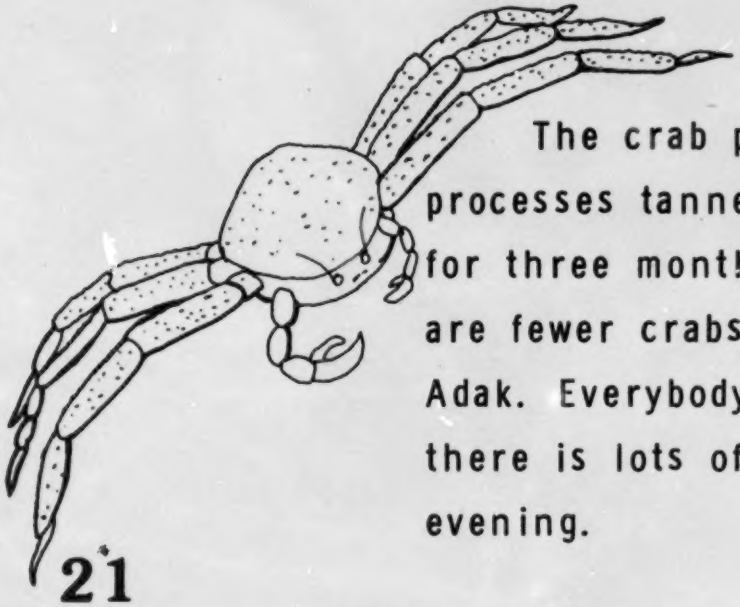
QIMGIITAM AWAALANAGAN SUNAA

Qimgiitam awaalagan sunaa saaqudax aqaguun waaĝadakuχ. Qimgiitam angunangin kayux angunaadanginulux usungin awaaladakun. Sunaχ qaankun tugiidan tanadgusim ilan adakuχ. Itaangisix slum chimikaa waligan adanaχ. Taĝa wayaam qimgiitaχ liisnalakaχ. Sunaχ waagan tanadgusim ilaan iĝuguum Adaagim adan uyadakuχ. Saaqudgim ilan anĝaĝim usuu sunam daĝan awadakuχ. Qimgiitaχ amnaĝuguun angalkingaan atiχ chasaχ akiitaχ awanan adakun.



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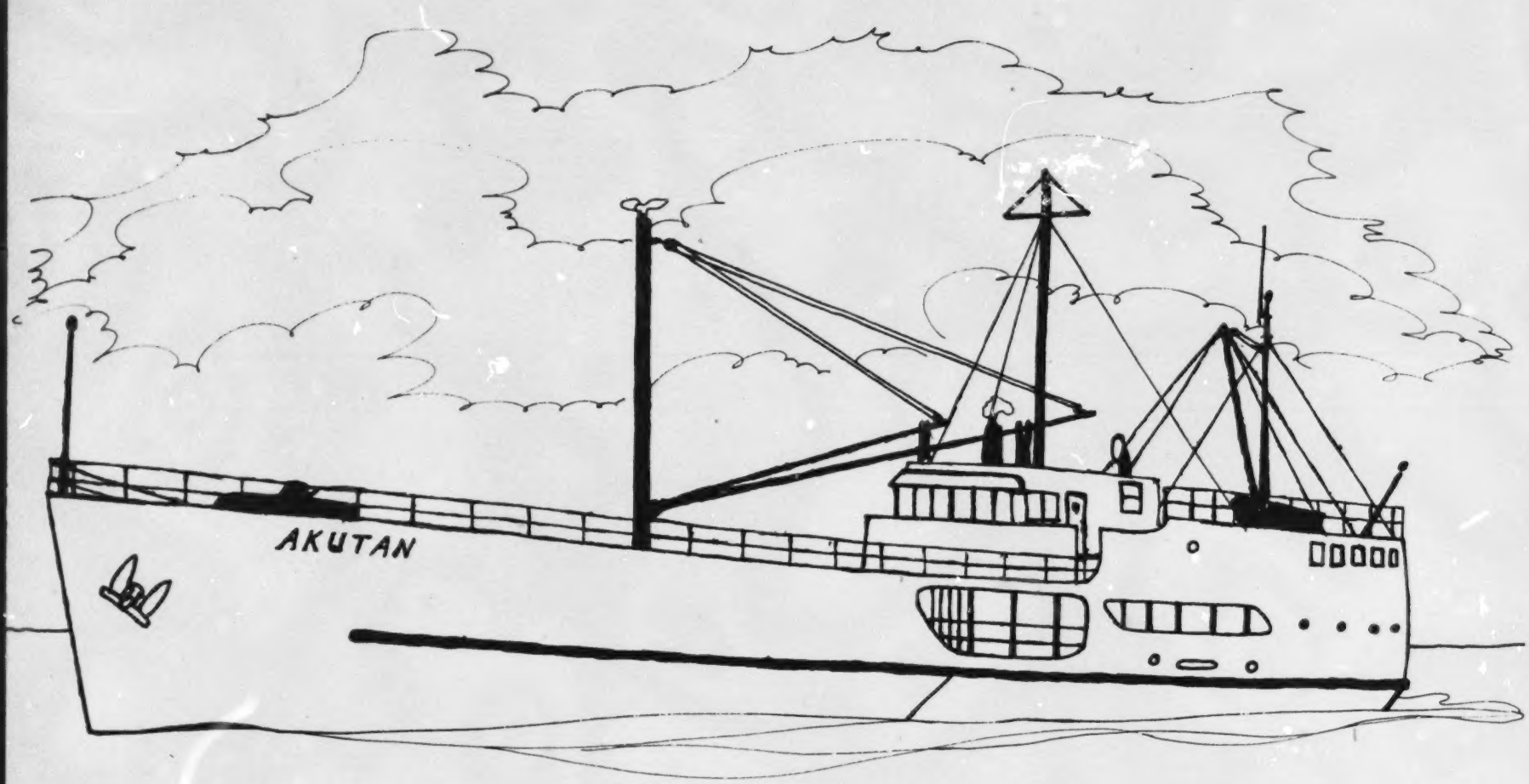
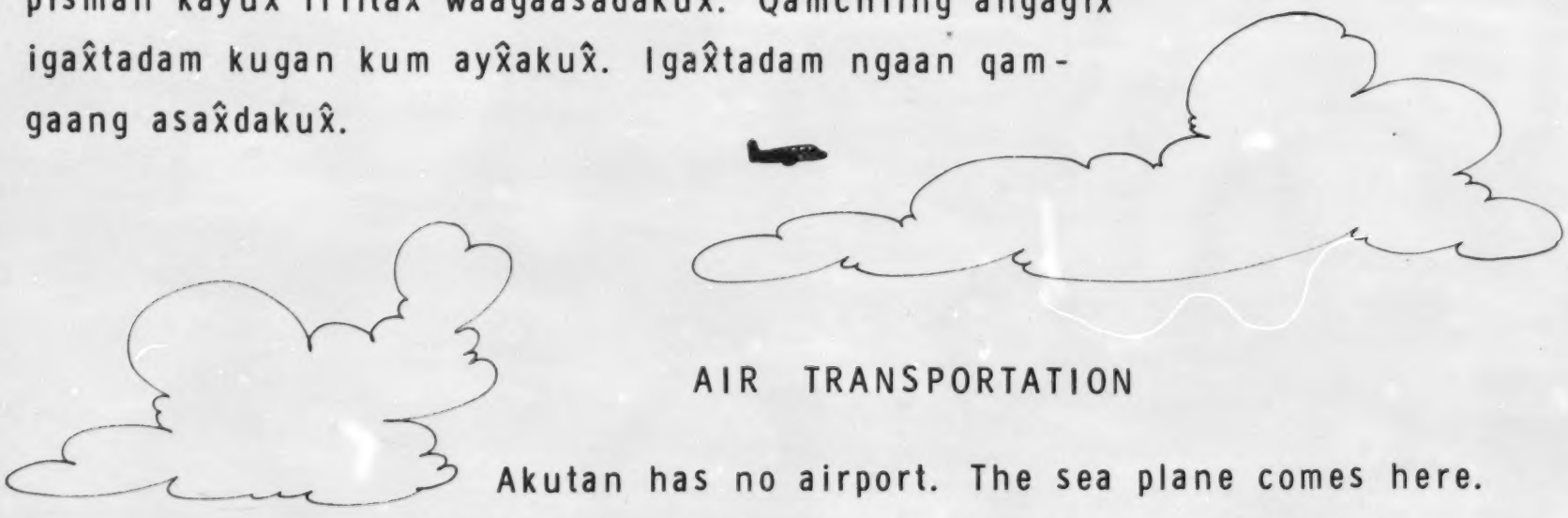
CRAB PROCESSING SHIP

The crab processing ship comes every summer. It processes tanner crabs and king crabs. The ship stays for three months. It used to stay year-round. Now there are fewer crabs. When the ship leaves Akutan it goes to Adak. Everybody works on the ship in the summer. When there is lots of crab they work up to ten o'clock in the evening.


AKUTAN

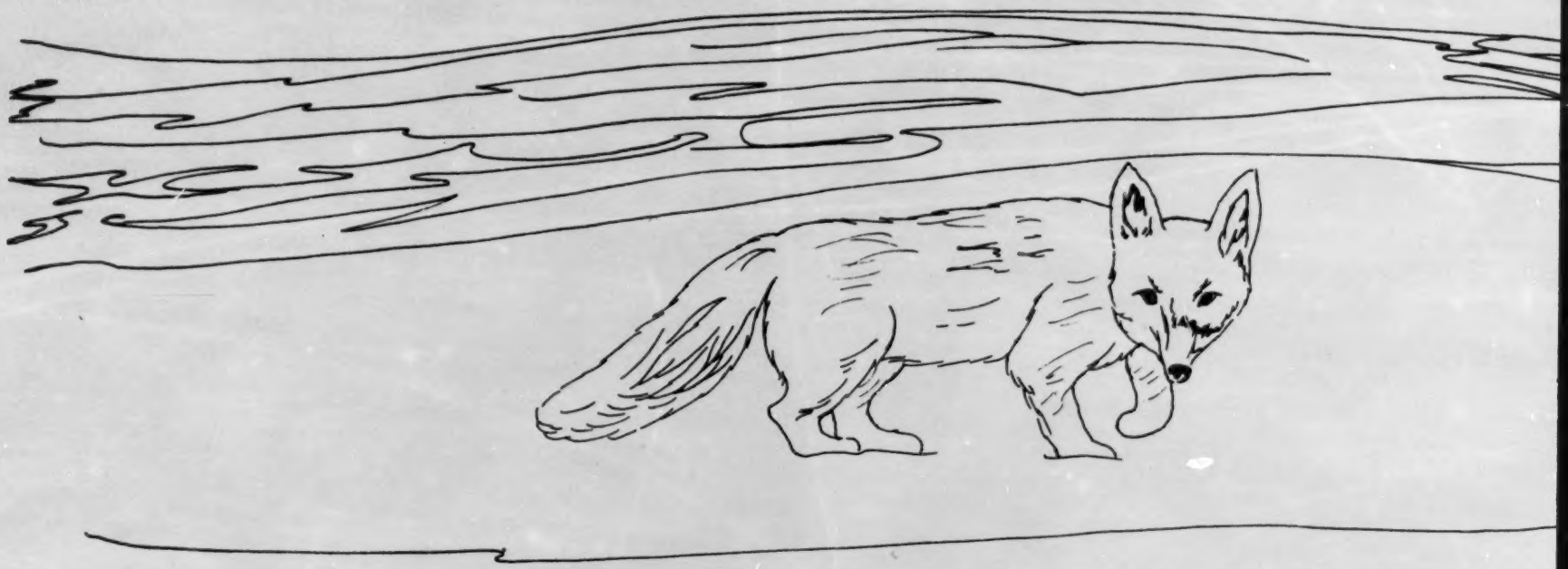
AYX̂AM ADAAN

Akutanax̂ igax̂tadam tagaaluĝa matalakax̂. Igax̂tadax̂ alaĝum kugaan akuuĝdakux̂. Alaĝum achidan agacha tagadakux̂. Qan'gim ilan ataqasim nidilim ilan walitadakux̂. Saaqudgim ilan amnaĝudim walitadakux̂. Igax̂tadax̂ pisman kayux friitax̂ waaĝaasadakux̂. Qamchiing anĝaĝix̂ igax̂tadam kugan kum ayx̂akux̂. Igax̂tadam ngaan qamgaang asax̂dakux̂.



AIR TRANSPORTATION

Akutan has no airport. The sea plane comes here. It taxis into the beach. It comes once a week in the winter. It comes more often in the summer. The plane brings mail and freight. Eight people can ride on the plane. It is a Gruman Goose.



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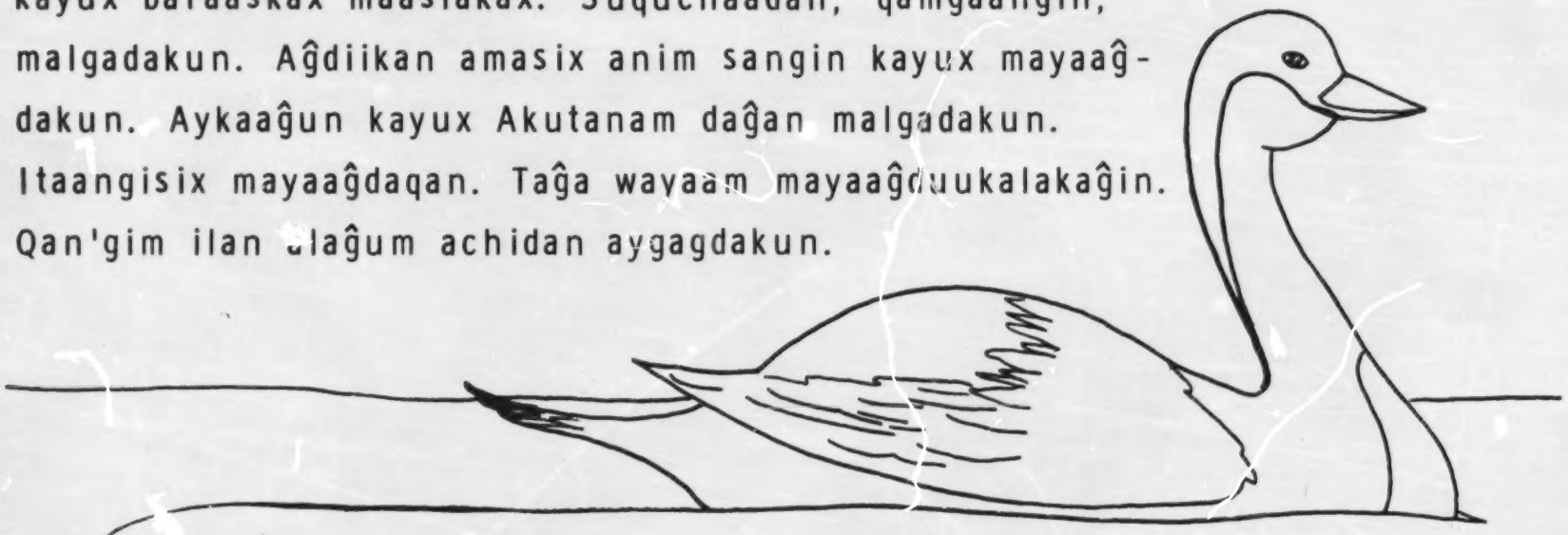
MAYAAĜAADAX̂

Waligan algan mayaaĝadaĝulux. Waligan itx̂aygix̂ kayux baraaskax̂ maaslakax̂. Suquchaadan, qamgaangin, malgadakun. Aĝdiikan amasix anim sangin kayux mayaaĝ-dakun. Aykaaĝun kayux Akutanam daĝan malgadakun. Itaangisix mayaaĝdaqan. Taĝa wayaam mayaaĝduukalakaĝin. Qan'gim ilan ulaĝum achidan aygagdakun.



HUNTING

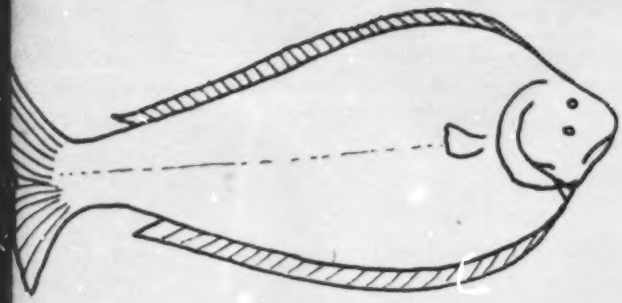
We don't hunt for animals. We don't have caribou or sheep. We hunt for birds. There are ducks and geese. We also hunt for ptarmigans. There are foxes on Akutan. We used to hunt them. We don't hunt them any more. The foxes walk on the beach in the winter.

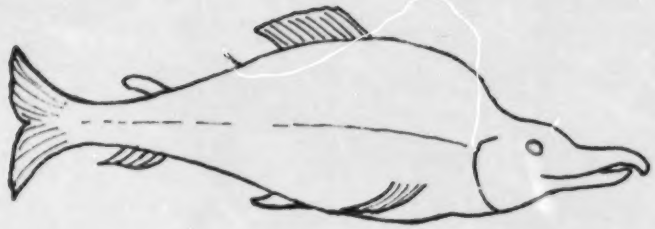
QAN AMAANULIX

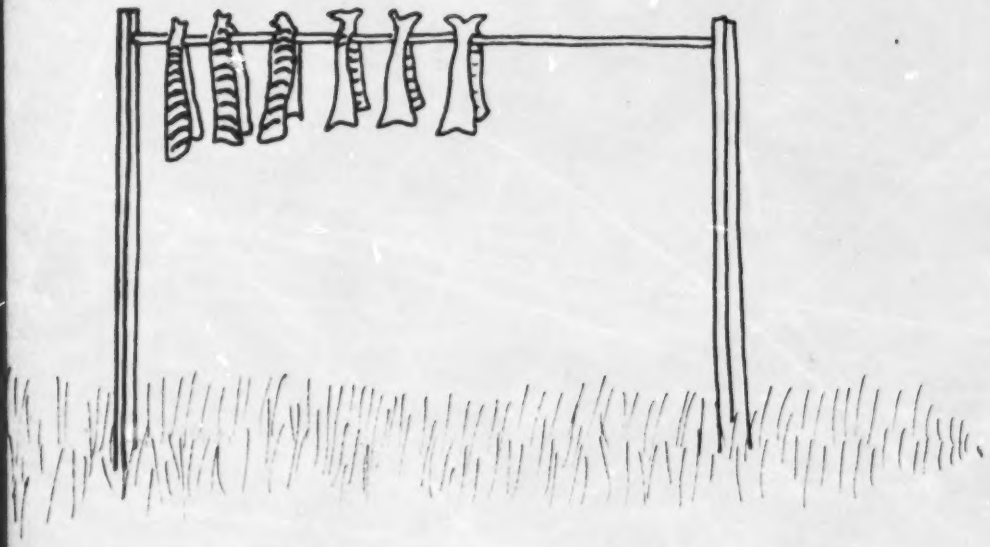
Qam amnaĝuu Akutanam ilaanugan malgadaqaŷ, wayaam maaslakaŷ. Chagin, atxidan, aanuŷ, kayux itxaan qan malgadaqan. Saaqudgim ilan udaŷ agudanan. Taĝa wayaam qaŷ maaslakaŷ. Tuman liisnasix qaŷ ukudaqadakun. Tuman ayuxtalix qanaaŷdalkaĝin. Qaŷ liisnalakaĝaan malix. Qan qanaanunan aŷtakun ii?

THE FISH HAVE GONE

There used to be a lot of fish around Akutan. There were halibut, cod, salmon and other fish. We dried fish in the summer time. Now the fish have gone. We hardly get fish any more. We don't go out fishing now. There aren't any fish around. Where have the fish gone?







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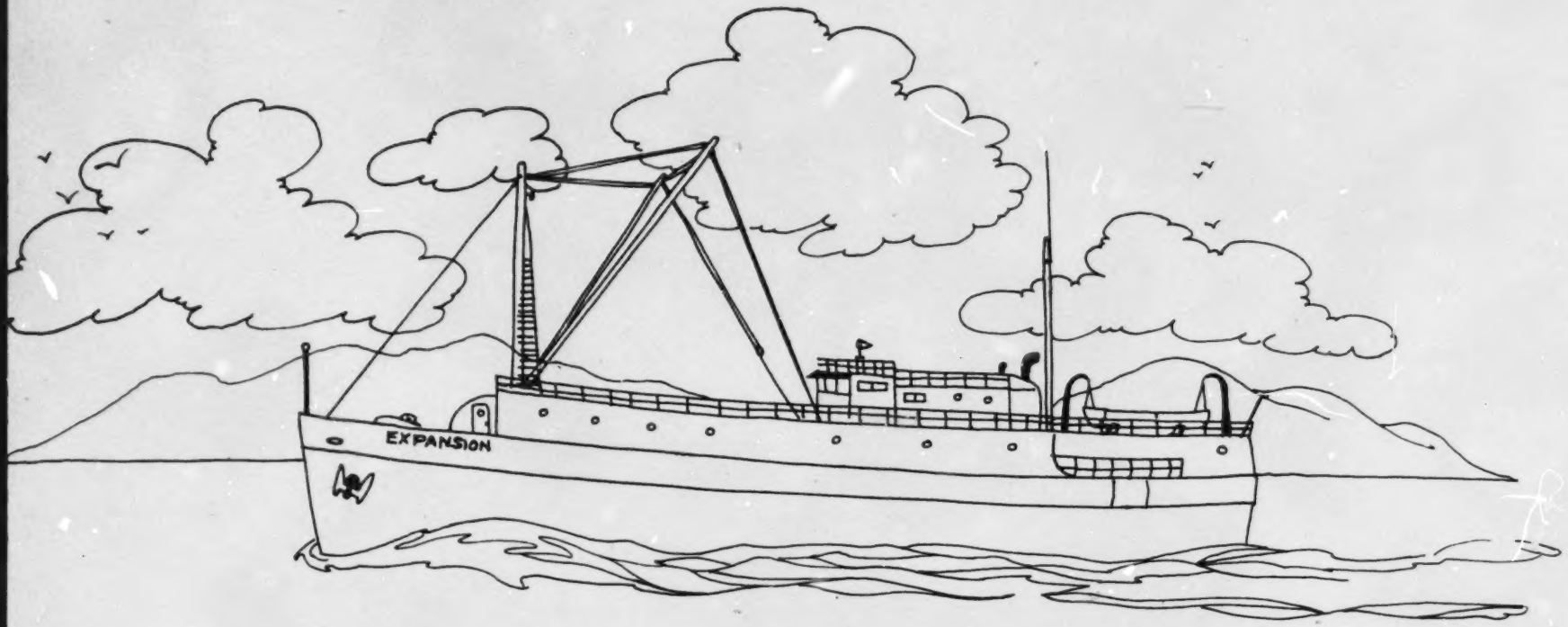
PISMAM SUNAA

Pismam sunagan kugan ayx̂adnaqing. Ispaansax̂ asax̂tanax̂. Kaytax̂ nux̂taqadaguung chiiludnaqing. Kaytam kugan ugayaalux̂ malgakux̂. Ugayaalux̂ nux̂talix amaltadnaqing. Qan'gaan alagum angunagan ilan ayx̂adanan. Qaankun angalin kaytam silaa axsxadaqax̂. Tanan ilingin atxitalix pisman igudanax̂.

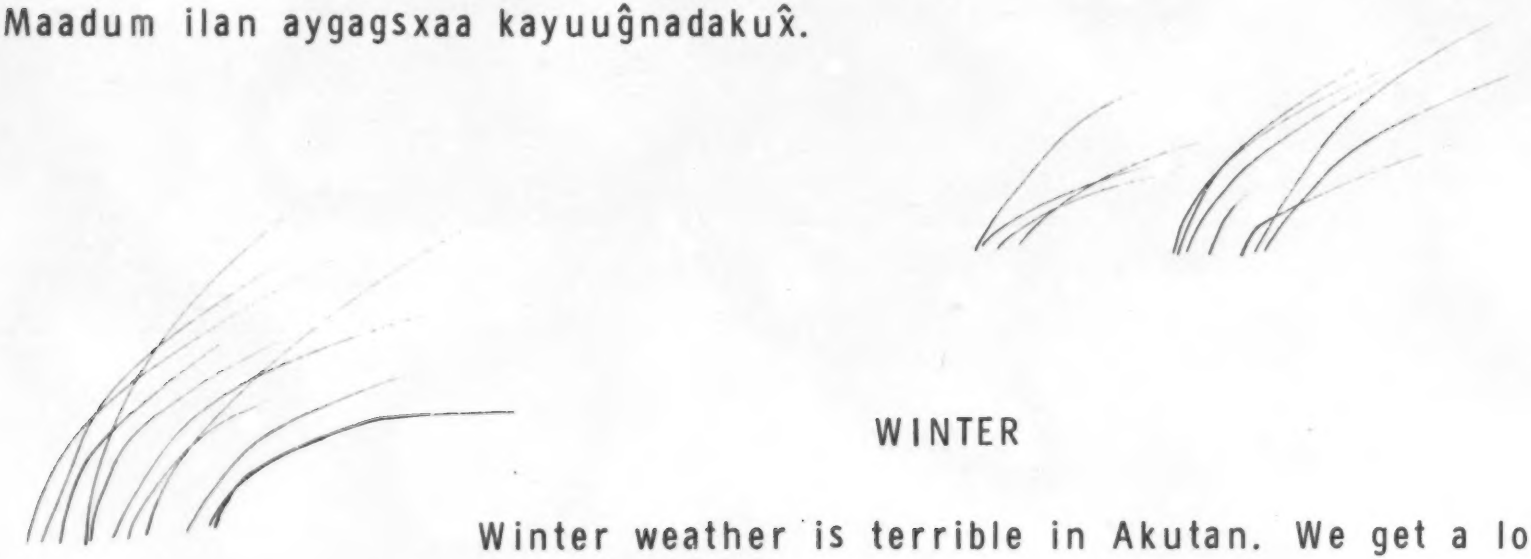
MAIL BOAT TO KODIAK

I used to ride on the mail boat. It was named Motor Vessel Expansion. I went to Kodiak and back. There is a hospital in Kodiak. I went there to the hospital. It was a rough trip in the winter. It took three days to reach Kodiak. We stopped along the way to leave mail.


EXPANSION

QAN'GIX̂

Akutanam kugan qan'gaan slax̂ iĝanadakux̂. Qaniigim angunaa malgadakux̂. Fivraalim kayux maartam kugan qignan uĝax̂tadakun. Chiĝanax̂ kdax̂ chutaasalix. Kdax̂ ulmaguun qignan atidakun. Slam kayutuu malgadakux̂. Maadum ilan aygagsxaa kayuuĝnadakux̂.



WINTER

Winter weather is terrible in Akutan. We get a lot of snow. The lights go off in February and March. Then the ice clogs the creek. When the ice melts, there is plenty of electricity. We have strong winds. It's hard to walk against the wind.

"The project reported herein was performed pursuant to a grant from the U.S. Office of Education, Department of Health, Education and Welfare. However, the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the positions or policies of the U.S. Office of Education, and no official endorsement by the U.S. Office of Education should be inferred."

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